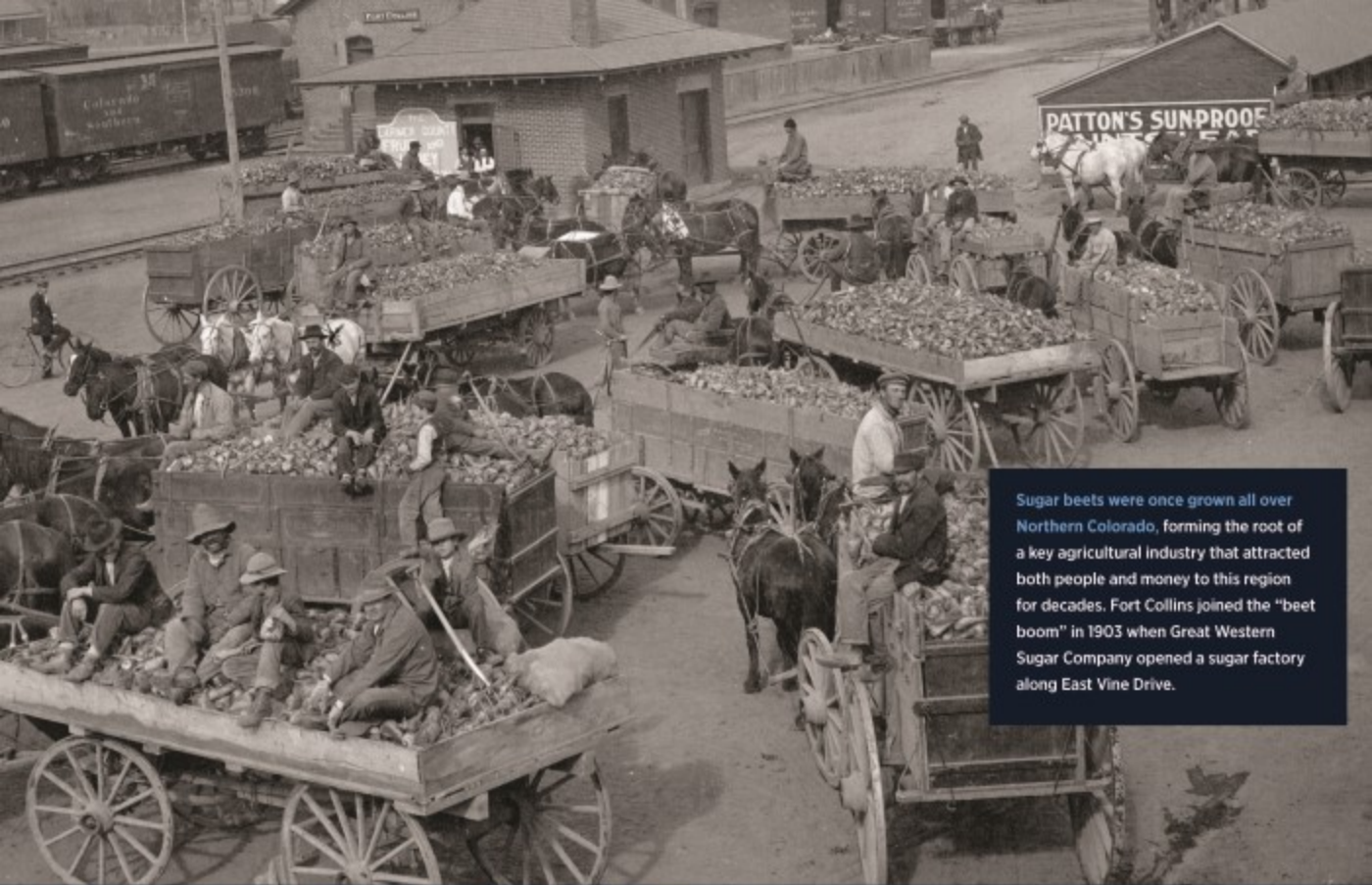




SUGAR BEET PARK



Sugar beets were once grown all over Northern Colorado, forming the root of a key agricultural industry that attracted both people and money to this region for decades. Fort Collins joined the "beet boom" in 1903 when Great Western Sugar Company opened a sugar factory along East Vine Drive.

SUGAR BEET WHOLESALERS

Sugar beets are finicky. They require precise planting, thinning, and harvesting, and thus a large labor force. Great Western Sugar actively recruited people to Northern Colorado to work the beet fields, including Germans from Russia and people from the Southwestern United States and Mexico. Many of these workers lived in Buckingham, Andersonville, and Alta Vista. These three neighborhoods (Las Tres Colonias) near Vine Drive and Lemay Avenue still retain many unique historic features.



GREAT WESTERN SUGAR COMPANY WORKERS

The Fort Collins sugar factory closed in 1954 after struggling with years of drought conditions, high production costs, and increased competition from cheaper sugar sources like cane sugar and corn syrup. The sugar beet industry and the contributions of the people who worked in the fields and factories indelibly shaped the character of Fort Collins.



GREAT WESTERN SUGAR COMPANY FACTORY



ALTA VISTA
NEIGHBORHOOD

VINE DRIVE

ANDERSONVILLE
NEIGHBORHOOD

HISTORIC GREAT WESTERN
SUGAR COMPANY FACTORY

STREETS MAINTENANCE
FACILITY

GRASSY
PARKING

BASKETBALL
COURT

RESTROOM

PICNIC
PAVILION

PLAYGROUND

DOG MATON
GARDEN

MULTI-PURPOSE
TURF FIELD

9th STREET

PARK PLAN



CORE AREA



Orientation of the park is toward the west to the location of City of Fort Collins Streets Facility and the original Great Western Sugar Company factory building.



Pollinator Garden features hundreds of native plants that create a habitat for people and pollinators. Native plants provide food and nesting materials (usually suited to support birds, butterflies, and bees). The garden is a partnership between Nature in the City and Park Planning and Development.



Signature bee play structure is a focal point at the end of rail line.

Overhead trellis structure connects the restroom and picnic pavilion creating a unique linear shade gallery for park users.

Sliding benches made of repurposed train ties, tracks, and crossties from City Park reference the rail cars used to haul beets to the factory. The trellis structure references the overhead machinery used to bring beets into the factory.



The linear design of the park reflects the large-scale industrial nature of sugar beet processing.

PARK ELEMENTS



SUGAR BEET PLAY STRUCTURE



POLLINATOR GARDEN



POLLINATOR GARDEN



PARK TRELLIS